Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the last paragraph starting on page 6 of the specification, the paragraph flowing the heading "DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS" as follows:

The present invention, according to a preferred embodiment, overcomes problems with the prior art by providing a system, a signal bearing medium and method that utilizes dedicated transmission queues to enable expedited transmission of data messages to adaptive "nearest neighbor" nodes within a cluster in which the embodiment is operating. Embodiments of the present invention implement expedited transmission processing to transmit data to one or more nearest neighbors, dependent upon the configuration of the cluster and the computing resources available to that embodiment. The following description focuses upon expedited transmission processing to a single destination in order to more clearly describe the features of the present invention. Parallel expedited transmission processing structures can be incorporated into a computing node to provide expedited transmission processing to a plurality of pre-defined destinations. It will also be apparent to those skilled in the art that present invention may be practiced in other embodiments and may depart from the specific details of the embodiments described herein.